

of freedom of thought and action which are so rare in the population at large are purposefully created by the Memetic Magician through the development of the eyes. The development of the eyes allows the ego to see the memetic programming influencing its decisions and cut off or manipulate that very same programming in order to achieve a desired goal. The ego must isolate itself in order to produce a willed change in the universe. Anything less than total isolation results in change which is correspondingly less attributed to the will of the ego and more attributed to the will of something else, whether this something else be an infectious memetic structure or the will of a portion of the subconscious.

The Subconscious landscape

When the ego comes in contact with the subconscious mind the varied forces contained within are perceived as *symbolic structures*. Symbolic because what the ego perceives is a re-presentation of an existing force present but not present physically. Structures because all but the most basic forces of the subconscious are hierarchal alliances which could theoretically be broken down into smaller elements. Just as a memetic structure is the result of a complex combination of memes, a spirit is the result of a complex unification of spirits.

Large portions of the human mentality are incredibly complex memetic structures, or frameworks, composed of vast numbers of memes, or ideological structures. This suggests that if memetic structures become complex enough, they can form consciousness out of nothing more than the correct configuration of memes. Spirits are memetic structures which have become so complex they have evolved limited forms of consciousness. The most powerful of spirits may have evolved within the evolutionary accelerator of the subconscious mind to such heights that their conscious structures are superior to those of the traditional human conscious. Such spirits may have developed psychic powers. It may be that when a human psychic uses his or her power, what is really happening is the ego of

the psychic is coming into contact with, or evoking, a spirit within his or her mind which has acquired, through spiritual evolution, a type of ultra-consciousness.

If the spirit theory of conscious evolution is accepted, it leads one to consider the possibility that a memetic engineer could theoretically fashion a memetic structure so complex it would create a new form of consciousness which would coexist within or replace the current consciousness utilized by a human being. This new consciousness could theoretically contain the keys which would unlock human psychic potential. In other words, a sufficiently skilled memetic engineer could transform a normal human being into a psychic.

The unconscious landscape is truly massive; far too large for the ego to explore in a lifetime. The landscape is formed by a combination of inherited mental traits and environmental input. Every instinct, thought, memory, or idea we hold assumes a fairly constant symbolic form somewhere within the vast expanse of the subconscious landscape. For example, a fear of flying might take the form of a busy airport. A love of gems might be symbolized by a vast network of subterranean caverns whose walls are filled with precious stones. A particularly enslaving memetic structure might assume the form of a cruel slave master donning garments which symbolize his powers. Again, though these forces are symbolic, they are nevertheless very real, and in many cases have evolved to the point of becoming self-aware entities. Spirits are real whether they are projections of the subconscious mind or not.

But though the underlying structure of the subconscious landscape remains fairly stable (except in rare circumstances where massive mental change has occurred) the details are constantly changing. Our mental defenses are under constant assault as numerous thought contagions attempt to bind to our subconscious mental structures. A steady percentage of thought contagions affect successful penetrations. Each successful thought contagion penetration alters the mental landscape.